



RMC Rural Housing Working Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, June 29, 2023

Time: 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Type: Zoom Teleconference

Participants: Charlotte Davis, Megan D'Arcy, Molli Cole, Amanda Clevenger, Duane Yoder, Cindy Stone, Jamie Williams, John Hartline, Kat Stork, Jennifer Walsh, Dominic Butchko, Ron Hantz, Linda Kohler, Mike Arntz, Claudia Wilson Randall, Dona Source, Tammy Duff

Ms. Charlotte Davis welcomed everyone and convened the meeting at 11:03 am. Introductions were made among participants. Ms. Davis stated that Dominic Butchko from Maryland Association of Counties would be the committee chair. Mr. Butchko asked the committee to review the minutes from the previous meeting and asked if there were any corrections. Hearing no response from the committee the minutes were approved unanimously. Mr. Butchko reviewed the committee's purpose and initiatives as a reminder to the committee.

Ms. Davis shared the draft 2023 Rural Issues Survey questions with the committee and asked if there were any comments for revisions of the questions. Committee member's discussed to include a demographic area question to identify where the survey takers residence of living is located and that all of the questions in the survey should be direct and easy to understand. Ms. Davis stated that the survey would be available on the Rural Maryland Council website and at outreach events. An Eblast would also be created to distribute the survey to the council's contact list.

The committee also reviewed the draft questions for the Rural Housing Survey for Local Government. Ms. Davis stated that the survey would be for elected officials and for the committee to get an idea of what resources are available for affordable housing. The committee discussed the following questions be added to the survey:

- Is there a fair housing organization that works within your county?
- What strategies are in effect right now that are working?
- What organizations are focused on the affordable housing problem?
- Is there a local resistance to affordable housing in your community?
- Is there an advisory council that is meeting with elected officials on the issue?
- Is there technical assistance that local governments have?
- Which counties have rental fair housing legislation planned?
- What resources are needed to be effective in rural housing?

Claudia Wilson Randall announced to the committee that the Community Development Network (CDN) in partner with the Rural Maryland Council will be holding regional meetings in July and August for elected officials to hear about the work that the Community Development Network (CDN) and the Rural Maryland Council (RMC) does and to see what resources are currently available in rural housing communities. Dates for these meetings would be announced soon but they are planning to be held in Eastern, Southern and Western Maryland locations. Ms. Davis stated that the committee should plan a Rural Housing Roundtable and plan to possibly hold this regional rural housing roundtable at the 2023 Rural Summit in November.

Ms. Davis reviewed the Rural Issues and Research Initiative Think Tank with the committee and it the RFP currently has five topics. The RFP will be reissued and it was suggested that Housing and Climate Change should be added topics to the RFP.

Other business discussed was to have the committee to include three breakout sessions on Rural Housing during the 2023 Rural Summit. Ideas for the breakout sessions would be discussed at future committee meetings. Mr. Dominic Butchko asked the committee to discuss the next committee meeting date and it was decided that the next meeting for the committee would be on August 30th.

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 pm.